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Education-and-P Food (195 49) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 286

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Dated 23rd March 1949

[Despatch Abstract.]

Food situation - Madras - Report for the second fortnight of February 1949 - Review - Papers - Recorded.

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REPORT ON THE FOOD SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE OF MADRAS DURING THE FIRST FORTNIGHT OF FEBRUARY 1949:-

1. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP PROSPECTS: -

* The rain fall during the fortnight was fair (0.5 to 0.9 inchea) in Vizagapatam and Mathurai districts and light or nil elsewhere. *A

" Transplantation of paddy was proceedings in the West Godavari district and in parts of the districts of Nellore and Coimbatore. Sowing of ragi was proceeding in the districts of Vizagapatam and Nellore. Water Supply was inadequate in the districts of Anantapur, Chingelput, Chittoor, North Arcot, and Salem and in parts of the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, Nellore, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli, Mathurai and Ramnad." B

' The condition of standing crops was poor in the districts of Chingleput, North Arcot, and Tiruchirapalli, not encouraging in Chittoor, and generally fair in the other districts. Paddy (the entire district of Tiruchirapalli and the white chelam crop in the Rayadrug, Siruguppa and Alur taluks of the Bellay district, and the standing crops in three taluks of the Chingleput district were affected by pests. Standing crops in all the taluks of Chingleput district and in parts of the districts of Chittoor and South Arcot had either withered or were withering for want of rain or adequate water supply.' C

A crop in parts of South Arcot and Coimbatore Districts and in

@ Harvest of paddy was proceeding in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Anantapur, Cuddapha, Nellore, Coimbatore, Tanjore, Ramnad, Tirunelveli and Mabalar and in parts of Guntur, South Arcot and South Kanara districts; of chelam in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Bellary, South Arcot and Coimbatore and in parts of the Cuddapah District; of cumbu in the districts of Bellary, Coimbatore and Ramnad; and of ragi in the West Godavari district. The outturn of paddy and millets was poor to normal.

II. EXTENT TO WHICH RATIONING HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN:

(i) Nature of the Existing Government Commitments:-

At the beginning of the fortnight undre review statutory rationing was in force in 44 municipal areas, one panchayat area and in Madras city and its suburban areas.

There was also rationing on a non-statutory basis in the rural areas of Malabar, the Nilgiris, South Kanara, Chingleput, North Arcot, Ramnad, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Tirunelveli, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Bellary, Coimbatore, Chittoor, Salem, Mathurai and South Arcot districts. In other deficit areas in the Province food grains were distributed through relief shops.

(ii) Towns/Areas brought under Rationing during the Fortnight:

No new area has been brought under statutory ratio..ing

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during the fortnight under review. Pre-rationing enquiries started on 25-1-49 with a view to introducing statutory rationing enquiries started on 25-1-49 with a view to introducing statutory rationing in the following municipal areas are still in progress.

Arruppukottai Devakottai Karaikudi Rajapalayam Sivakasi Srivilliputtur Virudhunagar	Ramnad District
Anakapalle Bheemunipatnam, Chicacole, Vizagapatam, Viziayanagaram	Vizagapatam District

Pre-rationing enquiries have also commenced on 15-2-49 in Ambur, Gudiyatham, Tirupathur, Tirucuvanammalai, Vaniyambadi, Vellore and Wallajapet municipal areas in the North Arcot district. Rural rationing was brought into force during the fortnight in the rural areas of the Tiruchirapalli district.

The introduction of rural rationing on a non-statutory basis is therefore complete now in all the deficit districts in the Province. The question of introduction of rationing in the six ~~months~~ surplus districts in the Province has since been taken up for consideration and a decision will be taken as early as possible.

(iii) Population involved separately for towns and for rural areas:

	Adults.	Children.	Total in terms of adults.
Areas under rural rationing	1,88,60,825	61,71,849	2,19,46,750
Statutorily rationed areas	31,77,780	9,45,213	36,50,387
Areas covered by relief shops	39,29,007	13,13,116	45,85,565

Excluding figures for the Ramnad and Coimbatore districts which are not available.

(Population figures as at the end of January 1949).

In view of the rapid conversion of relief shops into ration shops by the introduction of statutory and rural rationing in fresh areas every week, latest figures in respect of these areas are not available as they have to be collected from the Collectors and their subordinates. Complete information will be available by the end of Febrauray 1949 and will be furnished in the report relating to the second fortnight of February 1949.

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II. PROGRESS OF PROCUREMENT, BASIX PLAN MOVEMENTS, ETC.

(i) Progress of Procurement: The intensive procurement of paddy, rice and millets continued to be in force during the fortnight throughout the Province except in Madras City.

The Madras Foodgrains (Intensive Procurement) Order, 1948, has been amended to provide for the prohibition of sale of foodgrains by any person to any person other than the District Collector or the agent appointed and notified by the Collector in this behalf except under and in accordance with the orders of the Collector or any other officer authorised by the Collector in this behalf. The amendment also prohibits purchase of foodgrains by any person from any person except on a ration card or a permit issued bythe District Collector or any other officer authorised by the Collector in this behalf.

The tabular statement below shows the progress of precurement during and upto the fortnight ended 31-1-1949:

ALL IN TONS

Target for the Kharif year 1948-1949 (i.e. from 1-11-1948 to 31-10-1949).		Quantity Procured during the fortnight ended 31-1-49.		Quantity procured from 1-11-48 to 31-1-49.		Per centage of procurement to target.	
Rice	Millets	Rice	Millets	Rice	Millets	Rice	Millets
1,581,100	168,850	96940	2,133	347,517	6,000	22	4

Compared with the quantities procured during the proceeding fortnight (viz. 81,646 tons of rice and 1,972 tons of millets), the procurement during the fortnight ended 31-1-1949 shows an increase of 15.294, tons rice and 161 tons in millets. The increase were due to the good procurement made in Tanjore, West Godavari and Malabar districts.

(ii) Basic Plan Movements: (a) Rice : The Government of India have intimated the following allotments to this Province.

From Kanker and Baster States merged with Central Provinces — Tons 1000

From Overseas:

Ex. S.S. 'Chopra'	1436 Tons	
Ex S.S. 'Nizam'	1564 Tons	Tons 5436
Ex. S. S.'Chitsen'	2436 Tons	

Total Tons 6436

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b. Millets and Maize:

The following quantities were received during the fortnight:

22 tons	Orissa jowar.
110 tons	Overseas milo excess landed ex- SS 'Master Elias Koulakondras'.

The Government of India have intimated that it is not possible for them to allocate any milo to this Province during February 1949, 15,000 tons of coarse grans. but that it might be possible to allot during March 1949.

c. Wheat and Wheat products:

The following quantities of wheat were imported during the fortnight:

2000 tons ex SS 'Valentine Biboline(which arrived at Cochin Port on 3-2-49.

1900 tons ex SS "Baron Fairlic " which arrived at Madras Port on 5-2-1949.

d. Gram: The quota of 5,000 tons of Bengalgram allotted to Madras from the Central Provinces has since been cancelled by the Government of India. The additional quota of 120 tons allotted Madras from the Central Provinces under the Basic Plan for 1948 - 49, has already been imported through the trade.

A quantity of 284 tons of Bengalgram flour has arrived against the quota of 20,000 tons allotted from the East Pubjab States. Further advance of Rs.15/- lakhs has been remitted to the Director of Civil Supplies, Patiala, and despatching instructions for a quantity of 3,400 tons of gram dhal have also been issued to the Assistant Marketing Officer Nagpur. Despatches are expected to commence shortly.

Despatches against the quotas from Bikaner and Vindhya Pradesh Union are also expected to start very shortly.

(iii) Ration (Scales and Composition) and Offtake:

(a) Statutory rationing: There was no change in the scale and composition of the ration during the fortnight under review. The offtake during the four-weekly month of January 1949 (latest figures available) was as follows:

Rice	25133	tons
Wheat and wheat products	2514	tons
Other grains	532	tons
Total	28179	Tons

(b) Rural rationing: There was no change in the scale and composition of the ration in the rural rationed areas. The offtake of foodgrains from the rural ration shops during the month of January 1949 (four weeks only) was as follows:-

Rice	34,609	tons
Wheat and wheat products	989	tons

The following quantities were received during the fortnight:

From Orissa	Tons	1390
From Eastern States	"	39
Total	Tons.	1429

Other grains	3,443	tons
	39,041	tons

(c) Distribution through Relief shops in Non-Rationed Areas:

At the beginning of the fortnight under ee review, relief shops were functioning in the rural areas of Tiruchirapalli, Guntur and Nellore districts and in the municipal areas of Vizagapatam, North Arcot, Ramnad, and Coimbatore districts and the number of relief shops functioning in these areas on 30-1-49 was 1476. The relief shops working in the rural areas of Tiruchirapalli district have been converted into rural ration shops during the fortnight under review consequent on the introduction of rural rationing in this district. The number of relief shops working on 12-2-49 in the non-rationed areas of the Province was 1299. Relief shops continue to function in the districts of Guntur and Nellore and in the Municipal areas of North Arcot, Ramnad, Coimbatore, and Vizagapatam districts. In all other districts except the surplus districts regular rationing has been introduced.

There was no change in the scale and composition of the relief quota in the non-rationed areas.

The offtake through relief shops during the month of January 1949 (four weeks only) was as follows:-

All in tons.

Rice	Wheat	Millets	Maize	Total
17.367	910	2,678	496	21,451 *

* Excluding figures for the Ramnad and Coimbatore district which are not available.

(iv) Food Control Organisation: No change during the fortnight.

IV. SUPPLIES, MOVEMENTS AND PRICES:

(i) Stock and Supply :

(a) Rice: The total provincial stock increased from 2,51,000 ~~take~~ tons on 29-1-49 to 3,14,094 tons on 12-2-49 due to increased procurement in the several districts of the Province as also to increased imports from extra provincial courses. The stock in Salem district was low and steps were taken to replenish it.

(b) Millets and Maize: The stocks of maize and 'Other grains' on 5-2-1949 were 1,587 tons and 29,736 tons respectively with about 2000 tons of milo under transit from out of the supplies received during January.

(c) Wheat and Wheat Products: The stock on 12-2-49 ~~were~~ was 12,812 tons of wheat and 3,502 tons of Maida. Including the stock in transit, the stock of wheat will be about 13968 tons.

(ii) Movements and Transport: The following shipments were received from ~~abora~~broad during the month:-

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Name of the ship	Commodity	Date of arrival.	Quantity in tons.	Port of arrival.
SS 'Baron Fairlie'	Wheat	5-2-49	1300 tons	Madras.
SS 'Valentine Biboline'	"	3-2-49	2000 tons	Cochin.

No difficulty was experienced in moving these shipments to their destinations from the ports.

The supply of waggons for the movement of rice from the Northern Circars continued to be inadequate and as a consequence arrangements were made to move 5,800 tons of rice and paddy from Kakinada (East Godavari) to Calicut (Malabar) by sea during the next fortnight. Arrangements are also in progress to move a further 7,000 tons from Kakinada and 7,000 tons from Masulipatam (Krishna) by sea to Calicut.

(III) Prices: The statement below gives the provincial average retail prices of rice (second sort) cholam (Jowar) and cumbu (bajra) during the fortnight under review. The retail prices of all food grains during the fortnight show a tendency to fall.

Prices in terms of Rupees per Imperial Maund

Foodgrains.	Provincial average of prices on 12-2-1949	a fortnight ago.	a month ago.	a year ago.
Rice(Second sort)	15.82	16.05	16.65	14.75
Cholam (jowar)	10.27	10.48	11.19	10.13
Cumbu (Bajra)	10.75	11.48	12.63	10.81

V. MISCELLANEOUS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF REVISED FOOD POLICY:

(i) Miscellaneous: Taluk Food Committees:-

The Government have ordered the reconstitution of the Taluk Food Committees in all the districts. These are in addition to the District Food Committees already functioning.

(ii) Implementation of Revised Food Policy:-Nothing special to report.

Sd. x x x
28.3.49.
Superintendent,

/True Copy/

FOOD DEPARTMENT (D)

NOTE FOR CIRCULATION.

Sub: Food situation - Madras Province . Report for the fortnight ending 15-2-49 - Review.

Ref: From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) Ref.No. E. 24642/49, dated 26-2-49.

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Re: The report on the food situation in Madras Province for the fortnight ending 15-2-49 is submitted for perusal at pp3~~-8-e-f ante~~.

RAINFALL: The rainfall during the fortnight was fair (0.5. to 0.9 inches) in Vizagapatam and Mathurai districts and light or nil elsewhere.

SOWING AND TRANSPLANTATION: Transplantation of paddy was ~~proceeding~~ proceeding in the West Godavari district and in parts of the districts of Nellore and Coimbatore. Sowing of ragi was proceeding in the districts of Vizagapatam and Nellore. Water supply was inadequate in the districts of Anantapur, Chingleput, Chittoor, North Arcot, and Salem in parts of the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, Nellore, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli, Mathurai and Ramnad.

STANDING CROPS: The condition of standing crops was poor in the districts of Chingleput North Arcot, and Tiruchirapalli, not encouraging in Chittoor, and generally fair in the other districts. Paddy crop in parts of South Arcot and Coimbatore districts and in the entire district of Tiruchirapalli and the white cholam crop in the Rayadrug Siruguppa and Alur taluks of the Bellary district and the standing crops in three taluks of the Chingleput district were affected by pests. Standing crops in all the taluks of Chingleput districts and in parts of the districts of Chittoor and South Arcot had either withered or were withering for want of rain or adequate water supply.

HARVEST: Heavest of paddy was proceeding in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Coimbatore, Tanjore, Ramnad, Tirunelveli and Malabar and in parts of Guntur, South Arcot and South Kanara districts of cholam in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Bellary, South Arcot and Coimbatore and in parts of the Cuddapah district; of cumbu in the districts of Bellary and Coimbatore and Ramnad; and of ragi in the West Godavari district. The outturn of paddy and millets was poor to normal.

STOCK AND SUPPLY POSITION: The stocks of food grains in the Province on 12-2-49 were as follows when compared with the stocks on 5-2-49.

Foodgrains.	Stoks on 5-2-49.		Stocks on 12-2-49.	
Rice	285095	Tons	314094	Tons
Wheat	11254	Tons	12812	Tons
Maida	3661	Tons	3502	Tons
Maize	1587	Tons	1446	Tons
Other grains	29736	Tons	30497	Tons
	331333	Tons	362351	Tons

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Note: The Government of India have intimated the following allotments to this Province.

From Kaker and Baster States (Merged with C.P.)	1000	Tons
From Overseas	5436	Tons
Total	6436	Tons

The following quantities were received during the fortnight

From Orissa.	1390	Tons
From Easter States	39 ~~5436~~	Tons
Total	1429	Tons

The increase in the stock position of rice was due to increased procurement in the Province as also to increased imports from extra Provincial sources.

The stock in Salem District was low and steps were taken to replenish it.

MILLETS AND MAIZE: 22 tons of Orissa jower and 110 tons of overseas milo were received during the fortnight.

The Government of India have intimated that it is not possible for them to allocate any milo to this Province during February 1949 but that it might be possible to allot during March 49 15,000 tons of coarse grains.

WHEAT AND WHEAT PRODUCTS: 3300 tons of wheat were received during ~~the~~ the fortnight.

GRAM: A quota of 120 tons allotted to Madras from the Central Province under the Basic Plan for 1948, has already been imported through trade. Also a quantity of 284 tons of Bengalgram flour has arrived against the quota of 20,000 tons allotted for the East Punjab States.

RATIONING: The introduction of Rural rationing in Tiruchirapalli District was completed on 13-3-49.

PROGRESS ON PROCUREMENT: 96940 tons of rice and 2,133 tons of millets were procured during the fortnight. Compared with the quantities procured during the preceding fortnight (viz 81,646 tons of rice and 1,972 tons of millets), the procurement during the fortnight ended 31-1-49 showed an increase of 15,294 tons in rice and 161 tons in millets. The increases were due to the good procurement made in Tanjore, West Godavari and Malabar Districts.

PRICES: The statement below gives the Provincial average retail prices of rice (second sort) cholan (jowar) and cumbu (bajra) during the fortnight under review. The retail prices of all foodgrains during the fortnight show a tendency to fall.

PRICES IN TERMS OF RUPEES PER IMPERIAL MAUND.

	Provincial average of prices on			
FOODGRAINS	12-2-49	a fortnight ago.	a month ago.	a year ago.
1	2	3	4	5
Rice (second sort)	15.82	16.05	16.65	14.75

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1	2	3	4	5
Cholam (jowar)	10.27	10.48 ~~16.05~~	11.19	10.13 ~~14.75~~
Cumbu (Bajra)	10.75	11.48	12.63	10.81

Also the statements of prices at pp11-16 c.r. may be perused in this connection.

The case may be circulated to Hon'ble Minister (Food), Hon'ble Minister (Public Wprks) and H$_1$s Excellency the Governor for perusal.

Sd. x x x
8-3-49.

H.onIble Minister (Food), HonIble Minister (Public
P.S.G. His Excellency has seen, thanks . Works)

Sd. x x x
10-3-49.

TO A.S.

The case may now be sent to Public Works (Information and Publicity) for ~~appre~~ perusal and return.

Sd. x x x
13.3.49

PUblic Works (Information and Publicity) Department.

Seen in Information and Publicity.

Sd. x x x
15-3-49

Food

TO A.S.

The papers may now be recorded.

G.O.MS. 286. dated 23-3-49.

Food situation - Madras -
Report for the second fortnight
of February 1949 - Review -
Papers recorded.

Sd. x x x
22-3-49.

/True Copy/

ss/

Superintendent,
-8-1953,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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31/7.